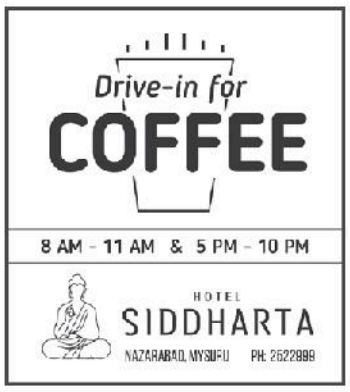

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e-Swathu service NOT in service

- **Technical glitches, server breakdowns halt e-Khata issuance process; property owners bear the brunt**
- **Launched by CM Siddaramaiah in Bengaluru on Dec. 1**
- **Service yet to take off in his home district Mysuru**

Mysuru, Dec. 22 (RK&BCT)- Technical glitches and server failures in the revamped e-Swathu 2.0 digital platform, launched by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in Bengaluru on Dec. 1, have stalled the issuance of e-Khata documents — both A-Khata and B-Khata — across Mysuru district since the day of its rollout.

As a result, scores of property owners have been making repeated visits to the Mysuru City Corporation, Town Panchayats, City Municipal Councils, other local bodies and Gram Panchayat offices, only to wait for hours or return without their documents.

Developed by Karnataka Government, e-Swathu 2.0 is a centralised online platform intended to manage urban and rural property records, streamline transactions, prevent fraud and ensure transparency in land ownership. The portal enables citizens to access digital e-Khata documents — Forms 11A and 11B — and related property records online.

However, the platform has remained non-functional since Dec. 1, with frequent server breakdowns, website crashes and network connectivity issues. The software is managed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), Bengaluru.

(See E-SWATHU on page 6)

Power sharing pact...

High Command decision is FINAL

I am making it clear once and for all, asserts CM Siddaramaiah in Mysuru

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah hears grievances of people gathered in front of his residence at T.K. Layout in city this morning along with District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa.

Mysuru, Dec. 22 (BLU&DM)- Even as speculations and discussions in political circles over leadership change issue in Karnataka continues, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has asserted that the decision of the Congress High Command is ultimate and binding on everyone in the party.

Speaking to press persons at his residence in T.K. Layout here this morning, he said that he has spoken to Congress High Command, which in turn said that it would decide on the matter.

"I am making it clear once and for all that the decision of High Command is final and as such the matter of change of leadership issue ends. It is the media which is talking more about leadership change though I have often clarified and had even issued a statement in the just concluded winter session at Belagavi. I endorse the statement of AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge, who has said that no one should claim that they alone brought the party to power or built it," CM pointed out.

(See DECISION on page 6)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 22nd December 2025

Rotary West School celebrates Annual Day

The Annual Day of Rotary West School, Dattagalli Campus, was celebrated on Dec. 12 at Kalamandira in city. Picture shows students presenting a colourful cultural programme.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

LOST IN CONVERSATION: ***Until recently, I was that person — the one still dispensing crumpled notes at cafes while everyone else bent the knee before the holy QR code. Friends interrogated my anachronism. Was I paranoid about digital trails? Cosplaying a minor movie villain from the 1990s?***

The truth was disappointingly mundane: I didn't trust myself with invisible money. Cash was my accountant, my conscience. When the pocket felt light, the message was clear: go home. But India stopped waiting for holdouts like me. The country converted. The revolution happened quietly and I missed the altar call.

It started gently. A tea-seller smiled apologetically: no change, sorry. Then the veggie vendor declared UPI-only, tapping a laminated square taped to his tomato crate. Outside temples, QR codes materialised beside donation boxes, sanctified by proximity to the divine. Although I am not a temple-goer, the implication was unmistakable: if gods had gone digital, who was I to demur?

The awakening came at a traffic signal. A woman seeking alms approached the auto I was in, and there, dangling from her neck alongside worn cloth, was a QR code. The ultimate escape route had vanished. You couldn't mumble "no change" anymore. Infra of evasion had been digitised.

Gradually, I transformed from charmingly retro to socially radioactive. Produce cash at a cafe and watch the barista recoil as though you've offered livestock. Even auto drivers, those legendary holdouts against meter usage, now united in their refusal of paper currency. My money wasn't outdated. It was excommunicated.

Self-preservation won. I downloaded the app, linked the account and with one reluctant scan, discovered what everyone meant by *convenience*. ***But don't mistake me for having embraced technology. I was assimilated by necessity. Now I pay faster, spend quicker and regret more efficiently. That chirpy "Payment received" chime has become my personal anthem of financial recklessness. No diminishing stack of notes to chasten me. No tactile transaction to anchor the reality of money spent. Money evaporates soundlessly, frictionlessly.***

I still keep some cash, tucked away like a love letter I can't quite discard. But India has rendered its verdict. Those without QR codes cease to exist. Once a cash purist, now a conscripted digital citizen. Not converted — conquered. The holy QR code has spoken and I have learned to scan and repent!— *Chethan Kumar in The Times of India*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Mother dog takes sick pup to clinic!

Moscow: A veterinary clinic in Turkey recently shared the touching story of a stray dog who carried her unconscious puppy in her mouth and left it at the clinic door as if begging for help.

A vet clinic in the Adnan Kahveci neighbourhood of Beylikduzu in Turkey, recently reported one of its most incredible cases. On January 13, an animal lover brought a young puppy they had found on the street, claiming it was the only survivor of a stray's litter. The clinic rushed to treat the pup only to then have its mother show up on the doorstep with another unconscious puppy in its mouth.

A technician noticed the desperate animal and rushed to tend to its offspring, which suffered from hypothermia and had a very low heart rate.

'Mickey Ears' procedure for pets

Beijing: Most cats and dogs have naturally pointy or droopy ears, but a new disturbing trend sweeping through China these days has pet owners ignoring common sense and their animals' physical and mental well-being for the promise of stylish 'Mickey Ears'.

Apparently, some shady pet clinics will slice part of the animal's ears off to achieve the Mickey Mouse look.

This bizarre trend sparked controversy online, with most of the general public urging authorities to ban the 'Mickey Ears' procedure and punish those who would torture defenceless animals purely for cosmetic purposes.

The first stage involves the cutting and shaping of the pet's ears and takes about half an hour, while the second stage takes between 20 and 60 days and ensures that the ears remain upright. The entire experience can be extremely traumatic for animals and can leave them with physical and psychological sequelae.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Early treatment can reverse heart dysfunction

Reduced blood flow can temporarily weaken heart muscle. With timely care, this "stunned" muscle often recovers fully.

By Dr. C.B. Keshavamurthy - Senior Consultant – Interventional Cardiology, Manipal Hospitals, Mysuru

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

**** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature***

Mediation 'For the Nation'

90-Day Drive at Taluk & District Law Courts from Jan. 2, 2026

Mysuru, Dec. 22- The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), in association with National Legal Services Authority (NLSA), New Delhi and Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, Bengaluru, has jointly organised a Special Campaign — Mediation 'For the Nation' 90 Days Drive — to settle cases pending in all the Taluk Courts and District Courts through Mediation in the entire State of Karnataka, from Jan. 2, 2026.

It is a golden opportunity to the general public to seek redressal of their pending cases before the Courts of Law.

The following cases may be settled:

• Criminal Compoundable offence; • NI Act cases under Sec.138; • Bank Recovery cases; • Labour dispute cases; • Others (Criminal Compoundable and other Civil disputes); • Land Acquisition Cases; • Motor Accident Compensation Litigation Cases (MACT); • Matrimonial disputes (except divorce cases).

For details, contact District Legal Services Authority or Taluk Legal Services Committees or Helpline No.: 15100.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **123.90 feet**	Today's level **2,275.64 feet**	Today's level **2,828.56 feet**
Last year's level **124.80 feet**	Last year's level **2,279.92 feet**	Last year's level **2,833.35 feet**
Yesterday's level **123.80 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,275.70 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,828.91 feet**
Today's Inflow **3,057 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **191 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **125 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **1,285 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **500 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **300 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Insects need oxygen to survive just like we do, but by 6km up, oxygen levels fall below 50% sea-level values, making it harder to maintain wing flapping.***
- ***Fewer molecules mean less heat generated by molecules bumping into one another. Temperature varies in complex ways with altitude and some layers of the atmosphere are warmer than others, but between Earth and about 10km up, the temperature steadily drops to less than 50°C.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Joe: *What must a man be, so that he may be buried honourably?*
Doctor: *He must be a 'captain.'*
Joe: *You are wrong. He must be 'dead'!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= **Rs. 89.68**
1 UK Pound	= **Rs. 120.11**
1 UAE Dirham	= **Rs. 24.39**
1 Euro	= **Rs. 104.94**

Architect-Inspired Kindergarten: Eden at St. Lawrence International School

Where Childhood Blossoms in Harmony with Nature

St. Lawrence International School's architect-designed kindergarten, Eden, has garnered national attention—recently featured across leading architecture and design platforms including The Architect's Diary, Archidiaries, Architecture Mind, and Indian Architects. This recognition celebrates Eden's thoughtful blend of design, nature, and early childhood learning. In an era where early education is rapidly evolving, very few institutions pause to rethink the learning environment from the ground up. Eden, the dedicated kindergarten block of St. Lawrence International School, stands apart as one of those rare spaces. Rather than imposing itself on the land, Eden was shaped around its natural surroundings. Mature mango and coconut trees were preserved as the heart of the design, allowing the building to gently curve around the landscape and create a sense of security, openness, and belonging for its youngest learners.

Inside Eden, natural light pours into every corner. Open-to-sky courtyards and seamless indoor–outdoor transitions make discovery feel effortless. Wide corridors, playful windows placed at child-friendly heights, and staircases that double as seating areas have all been conceived from a child's perspective. Here, the environment is not just a backdrop to learning; it actively supports it. Eden embodies a simple yet powerful philosophy: the physical space can teach, comfort, and inspire just as much as the adults who guide the children.

Designed for Childhood

Kindergarten is where a child begins to understand what learning feels like. Eden ensures this beginning is warm, welcoming, and joyful. Soft curves, shaded walkways, earthy colours, and gentle forms create a calm environment where even the youngest children feel at ease.

Instead of grand buildings that overwhelm, Eden consists of smaller interconnected blocks that feel intimate, inviting, and child-sized. The architecture respects the way children move and explore. It recognises that children learn best when they feel safe, curious, and free to wander.

This is why the environment has been shaped as a "third teacher" — supporting and enhancing the work of educators by nurturing confidence, independence, and a sense of belonging.

A Foundation That Lasts Beyond Kindergarten

Eden's impact reaches far beyond the early years. As children transition into the Primary, Secondary, and High School blocks of St. Lawrence International School, they carry forward the confidence, curiosity, creativity, and sense of connection built during their time in Eden.

Parents often remark on how smoothly children move from Eden into more formal learning environments. This ease is not the result of early academic pressure. It is the result of readiness — the readiness to think, explore, communicate, collaborate, and engage meaningfully with learning.

In an educational climate that often emphasises early academics, Eden stands apart as a space that protects and celebrates childhood while also laying strong academic foundations.

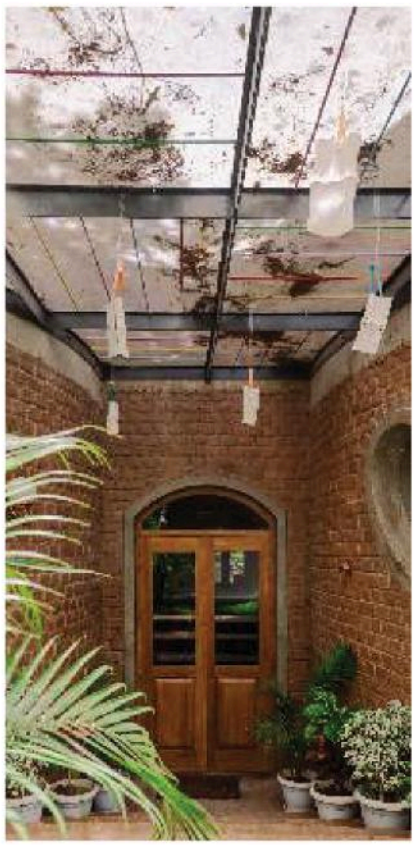
Childhood, Curiosity, and Curriculum

Eden's educational philosophy is a natural extension of its architecture. The learning programme emphasises play, inquiry, and exploration rather than rote learning. Classrooms are vibrant, flexible spaces filled with materials that invite children to experiment, create, and express.

A child's day might include painting under a shaded veranda, building structures in a sandpit, exploring patterns with natural materials, or listening to stories beneath a tree. These experiences reflect contemporary early-childhood research, which shows that play — especially play in natural environments — strengthens cognitive development, emotional wellbeing, creativity, language, social skills, and physical coordination.

At Eden, such learning unfolds organically. Children are not rushed through concepts but are encouraged to question, attempt, reflect, collaborate, and imagine.

AT EDEN, EVERY CHILD BLOSSOMS. AND THEIR JOURNEY HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN.



Educators Who Nurture Individuality

The heart of Eden lies in its educators — trained professionals who understand that each child is unique. They observe closely, guide gently, and design learning experiences that build on children's interests and readiness.

Teachers at Eden blend play-based learning with purposeful teaching. They support early literacy and numeracy while nurturing emotional resilience, confidence, social awareness, and independence. Instead of pushing children toward milestones, they walk alongside them, allowing each child's personality and pace to shine through.

This thoughtful, child-centred approach helps young learners develop a lifelong love for learning.

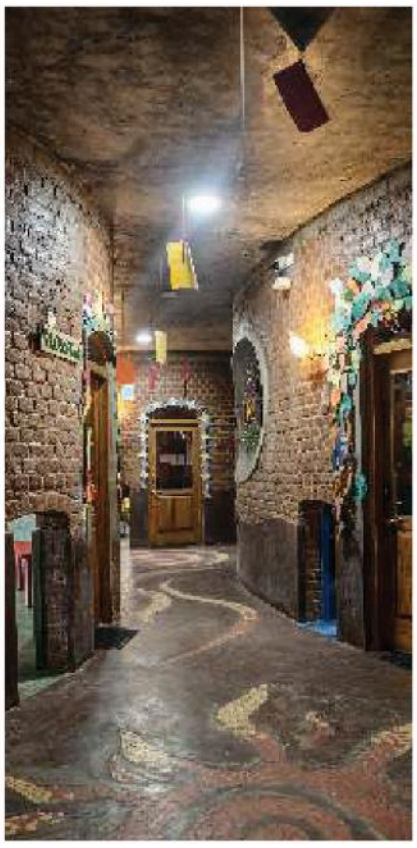
Why Eden Matters

Eeden Kindergarten is much more than an architectural achievement or a well-designed early-years facility. It represents what early education should be: thoughtful, respectful of childhood, deeply connected to nature, and built on the foundations of play, inquiry, and emotional wellbeing.

In a world that often measures success through scores and speed, Eden brings the focus back to what truly matters: the joy of discovery, the wonder of exploration, the gentleness of belonging, and the freedom to be oneself.

For the children of St. Lawrence International School, Eden is where their journey begins. It begins not with pressure but with joy; not with comparison but with curiosity; not with uniformity but with individuality.

As sunlight filters through the leaves, as laughter echoes through shaded corridors, and as little feet race across open courtyards, one truth becomes clear: this is how childhood should feel. This is how learning should begin.



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Mysore Palace BLOOMS

MLA Tanveer Sait inaugurates 10-day Flower Show

Mysuru, Dec. 22 (SBD&BCT)- With a riot of colours and fragrant blooms bidding farewell to the passing year and ushering in the New Year, the annual Flower Show at the Mysore Palace premises was inaugurated last evening.

Organised by the Mysore Palace Board as part of the Winter Festival in the Christmas and New Year season, the 10-day exhibition will be open to the public till Dec. 31 from 10 am to 9 pm. Entry fee for the Flower Show is Rs. 30 for children and Rs. 50 for adults. Added attraction is Palace illumination from 7 pm to 9 pm every day.

The Show was inaugurated by MLA Tanveer Sait in the presence of MLA T.S. Srivatsa, MLC Dr. D. Thimmaiah, Karnataka Exhibition Authority (KEA) Chairman Ayub Khan, former Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK) Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy, DC G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, Zilla Panchayat (ZP) CEO S. Ukesh Kumar, Mysore Palace Board Dy. Director T.S. Subramanya and others.

The dignitaries later toured the various floral installations on display.

Speaking after the inauguration, MLA Tanveer Sait said, Mysuru is synonymous with Dasara, Mysore Silk, betel leaves, Nanjangud Rasabaale and the famed Mysore Sandal Soap gifted by the Maharajas.

He noted that the Wadiyar Dynasty gave priority to art and tradition, which helped Mysuru grow into a prominent cultural region.

He said that the Palace Board has organised the Flower Show in a meaningful manner and this Show adds to Mysuru's cultural calendar and will attract thousands of tourists.

MLA Srivatsa thanked the Palace Board for providing opportunities to artistes who did not get chance during Dasara festivities, noting that Mysuru's fame rests on landmarks like Chamundi Hill and the Palace.

MLC Thimmaiah remarked that participating in such events is a privilege, recalling Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar's immense contributions to Mysuru and Karnataka's development. He stressed the duty of preserving and nurturing the cultural heritage handed down.

Traditional wrestling (Naada Kusti) contests were held in an arena near Doll House area, with 17 pairs of men and three pairs of women participating. Winners were felicitated with prizes.

Cultural programmes were presented at the Palace premises, where noted multilingual music director Manikanth Kadri and Bollywood playback singer Hamsika Iyer enthralled the audience with a grand musical concert.

Earlier, several teams presented instrumental music, devotional songs, light music, folk performances and renditions of Mysore State anthems. **Cultural programmes will be held from 5 pm to 9.30 pm till Dec. 25.**

TRIBUTE TO 'VRUKSHA MAATE': ***MLA Tanveer Sait and other dignitaries, who took part in the inauguration of Winter Festival - Flower Show at Mysore Palace premises last evening, pose for a picture with the statue of Saalumarada Thimmakka watering a sapling — made of siridhanya — on display at the Flower Show. Picture right shows attractive floral creations.***

VOICE OF THE READER

Need Wi-Fi facility at Vishwamanava Intl. Students' Hostel

Sir,

Students coming to study at the University of Mysore from abroad mostly stay at the Vishwamanava International Students' Hostel. However, the absence of Wi-Fi facilities in the hostel causes them significant inconvenience.

Upon arriving at a new place, students are unable to immediately inform their families that they have arrived safely and they also do not know where to access the internet.

Only after submitting documents such as their passport and visas and obtaining a SIM card can they communicate with their families.

Therefore, if the Vishwamanava International Students' Hostel were equipped with stable Wi-Fi, international students coming to Mysuru for education could stay in touch with their families without any difficulty. This would greatly help ensure their safety and mental well-being.

—B. Kanageshwary
(Sri Lanka), Dept. of Journalism,
University of Mysore
Mysuru
3.12.2025

ASG Eye Hospital launches cashless Karnataka Arogya Sanjivini Scheme

DDPI D. Uday Kumar seen undergoing eye check-up on Saturday after launching ASG Eye Hospital cashless KASS Eye Care Scheme as Dr. H.M. Mahesh Kumar, Vitreoretina Surgeon and Uvea Specialist at ASG Eye Hospital, Somashekar, Revanna, Arun Kumar — all from the Education Department and Pradeep Prashad, Centre Head, ASG Eye Hospital look on.

Mysuru, Dec.22- Teachers play a crucial role in identifying eye-related problems among children and their timely observations often prompt parents to bring their children for eye check-ups, said Dr. H.M. Mahesh Kumar, Vitreoretina Surgeon and Uvea Specialist at ASG Eye Hospital, Mysuru.

He was speaking at the launch of the cashless Karnataka Arogya Sanjivini Scheme (KASS), earlier known as Jyoti Sanjivini, exclusively for eye care services, here on Saturday.

Dr. Mahesh Kumar stressed the importance of regular eye examinations to prevent further damage and avoid related health complications.

With this initiative, ASG Eye Hospital has become the only eye hospital in Mysuru to be officially empanelled under the KASS Scheme, marking a major milestone in providing affordable and accessible eye care.

Under the scheme, eligible beneficiaries can avail free outpatient consultations and completely cashless surgical treatments, ensuring quality eye care for economically vulnerable sections and preventing avoidable vision loss and blindness.

He added that the scheme significantly reduces the financial burden on patients and ensures timely, high-quality treatment, emphasising that access to advanced eye care should not be restricted by economic limitations.

Addressing the gathering, DDPI of Mysuru district, D. Uday Kumar, urged teachers to make full use of the scheme. He called upon them to spread awareness about eye health and guide children and adults towards healthy habits, including nutritious diets, reduced screen time and regular yoga and meditation.

As part of the launch, ASG Eye Hospital organised free eye screening camps for teachers across Mysuru district. The camps focused on early detection of eye problems and promotion of preventive eye care, during which free reading glasses were distributed to eligible teachers.

The event was officially inaugurated by DDPI Uday Kumar, who also underwent an eye check-up on the occasion.

Somashekar, Revanna and Arun Kumar, all from the Education Department and Pradeep Prashad, Centre Head, ASG Eye Hospital, were also present.

JSS STU wins CII "Excellence for Women in STEM 2025" Award

Mysuru, Dec.22-JSS Science and Technology University (JSS STU), Mysuru, has been conferred with "CII Award on Excellence for Women in STEM 2025" for the second consecutive year, reaffirming the University's sustained efforts to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

The award was presented by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), India, during the Global Summit on Technology, R&D and IP held on Dec.17 at Le Méridien, New Delhi, bringing together industry leaders and eminent experts committed to strengthening women's participation and leadership in STEM.

Dr. Vanishri Arun and Dr. Sindu Bharath represented JSS STU and received the honour from distinguished dignitaries including Dr. Ashish Mohan, Executive Director, CII, Dr. Vaishali Nigam Sinha, Chair, CII Women in STEM initiatives & Co-founder, ReNew & Chairperson (Sustainability); Inge Buffolo, Director, European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) and Dr. Chandrika Kaushik, Distinguished Scientist & Director General, Production Coordination & Services Interaction, DRDO, Government of India.

JSS STU was recognised among the 'Top 10' institutions following a rigorous evaluation process.

The recognition highlights JSS STU's multi-pronged approach to enabling women in STEM spanning gender-equitable hiring, capacity building and professional development, leadership programmes and workplace flexibility, aimed at ensuring women have the support and opportunities to excel, innovate and lead at every level.

Dr. A.N. Santosh Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, JSS STU and Prof. (Dr.) S. A. Dhanaraj, Registrar, appreciated the collective efforts led by Dr. N. Haraprasad, Dean-QAA, along with Dr. Pushpa Tuppad and Dr. S. Prajna.

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Ph.D awardee

Mysuru, Dec. 22- **Himani Harithas** has been awarded Ph.D in Journalism and Mass Communication by the University of Mysore (UoM), Mysuru, for her thesis titled *'Impact of Multimedia Content in the Teaching-Learning Process - A Study'* submitted under the guidance of Dr. Niranjana.

Railway fare hike from Dec. 26

New Delhi, Dec. 22- The Railways has increased train ticket fare by one paisa per km for journeys in ordinary class beyond 215 kms and two paise per km for non-Air Conditioned classes of Mail or Express trains and AC classes of all trains.

The new rates will be effective from Dec. 26. The hike is the second one in six months, making train travel in all AC and non-AC coaches of Mail and Express trains a little costlier after Christmas.

However, there will be no change in prices of tickets for Sub-urban trains and seasonal tickets for local passengers, like in July, when the last hike was made, which came after a gap of over 5 years. With the latest hike, the Railways is likely to mobilise Rs. 600 crore.

According to officials, "Railways will earn about Rs. 600 crore this year as a result of this rationalisation of fares. Despite the second increase in ticket prices in the current financial year, passenger fares remain heavily subsidised by the Government to keep them affordable." For a 500-km journey in both AC and non-AC coaches, passengers will have to pay only Rs. 10 extra after the latest fare revision, the officials added.

Sports meet and medical check-up held

MLAs K. Harishgowda and T.S. Srivatsa and former MLA M.K. Somashekar inaugurated the sports meet organised by Mysuru District Photographers and Videographers Association as part of its silver jubilee celebrations at Maharaja's College Grounds in city yesterday. A special medical check-up camp was also organised on the occasion. Association President D. Vijay, Vice-President Rajgopal, Secretary Dhananjay, Joint Secretary Umashankar, Treasurer Umesh, PRO Siddalinga Prasad, Directors Lokesh, Manjunath, Narayan, Belaku Manju, Verghese, Nagaraju Naidu and former Director Sudarshan were present.

Aarti, Laksha Deepotsava draw crowds at River Kapila

Nanjangud, Dec. 22 (CM&BS)- The banks of the Kapila River in Nanjangud witnessed a grand spiritual spectacle last evening, as thousands of devotees gathered for the Kapila Aarti and Laksha Deepotsava organised by the Yuva Brigade at Snana Ghatta.

The rituals began with worship of the Shivalinga installed at Hadinaru Kalu Mantapa. Swami Sarvajayanandaji and Swami Pramathadeepanandaji of Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru, along with Vishwa Hindu Parishat (VHP) Secretary Gopal, performed the 'Ashtatheertha Abhisheka' to the deity.

Later, dignitaries were ferried by boat to a temporary platform built in the middle of the river.

Offering floral tributes to the portrait of Bharathambe, Gopal said, "The cow that gives milk is worshipped as Go Matha, and rivers, considered lifelines, are revered as Ganga Matha, Thunga Matha, and Kapila Matha. Both cows and rivers are mothers in our culture and tradition." He urged devotees not to pollute the river by throwing waste, including old clothes, into the water.

Recalling Yuva Brigade's decade-long involvement in cleaning the river with public support, Gopal noted that the introduction of Kapila Aarti has significantly reduced the practice of dumping waste into the river. He also described the inauguration of the Sri Ram Mandir in Ayodhya as the culmination of centuries of struggle.

Five Ruthwiks led by Krishna Jois performed Dhoopa Aarti and Deepa Aarti to the river. Women devotees lit lamps placed on the Sopana Katte, while youths celebrated the occasion with fireworks, adding to the festive atmosphere.

The event was attended by Yuva Brigade State Convener S. Chandrashekar, Nanjangud Taluk Convener Nithin, along with Girish, Sunil, Suresh, N.V. Ravishastri, Charan, Kishore, Arjun, and Mahadev.

e-Swathu not in service

(Continued from page 1)

Faltered rollout

The State Government upgraded the Panchatantra software and introduced e-Swathu 2.0 in April this year to integrate property details with digitised records, simplify documentation and strengthen ownership verification. Despite these objectives, the rollout has faltered at the pilot stage.

Mysuru is among the five districts selected for the first phase of the e-Swathu 2.0 pilot project. However, even in the Chief Minister's home district, the platform has failed to take off, with not a single e-Khata application — either A-Khata or B-Khata — processed since its launch.

The e-Khata has been made mandatory for building plan approvals and all property-related transactions, pushing the property owners into further confusion.

On their part, the officials and staff are left wondering and kept waiting for when the technical glitches, network failure, website and server breakdown issues are properly and permanently addressed.

> There have been glitches in the e-Swathu 2.0 platform, affecting the issuance of A-Khata and B-Khata documents at the Mysuru City Corporation and other local bodies in the district. The issues — including server problems, login credential errors and software glitches — are being rectified in Bengaluru, and we expect the system to be operational soon
>
> —**G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, Deputy Commissioner, Mysuru**

High Command decision is final

(Continued from page 1)

However, taking exception to Kharge's remarks that the party issues in the State must be resolved at the local-level, CM reiterated that it is the High Command which has to resolve any issues bothering the State Unit.

When questioned about talks of 'Kranti' (meaning Revolution) during Sankranti festival, the CM said that there is nothing as such.

Hate Speech

Replying to a question on BJP's opposition to the Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2025, Siddaramaiah, brushing aside any apprehensions of the Opposition, said that the Bill covers all political parties, leaders and organisations. Noting that it is the BJP leaders who often make hate speeches, he said that this is the reason why the BJP is unduly worried about the Bill.

CM stays overnight in city

CM, who arrived in the city last evening, reportedly held a meeting with party MLAs and top party leaders from Mysuru and Chamarajanagar regarding selection of President and Vice-President for MCDCC Bank.

CM savours dosa at city hotel

Earlier in the morning, CM Siddaramaiah had breakfast at his favourite Mylari Hotel in Agrahara, where he was served with dosa and other items of his choice. Mysuru District In-charge Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Animal Husbandry Minister K.Venkatesh, MLA D. Ravishankar, former MLA M.K. Somashekar, City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar, Deputy Commissioner G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, MCC Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif, SP N. Vishnuvardhana and others too had breakfast with the Chief Minister.

Welfare scheme benefits denied at Nemmadi Kendras

Mysuru, Dec. 22 (RK&BCT)- Citizens visiting the Mysuru Taluk Office for various services have raised concerns over difficulties in submitting applications at Nemmadi Kendras, citing stringent document verification and procedural delays.

Applicants are reportedly required to produce original documents such as Aadhaar, ration, voter identity cards, bank passbooks and life or death certificates.

In the absence of originals, applications for several schemes are not being accepted, causing inconvenience to the public.

Residents allege that if any document is lost, applicants are forced to spend months visiting multiple offices to obtain replacements. They claim that such strict verification is being enforced only at Mysuru Taluk Nemmadi Kendras, leading to frustration.

Even beneficiaries holding BPL cards have reported rejection of applications when income entries exceed Rs. 30,000 per annum, resulting in poor students being denied scholarships.

Pension schemes for widows, senior citizens, persons with disabilities and Sandhya Suraksha beneficiaries are also said to be facing delays or rejection.

Applicants further allege that while processing caste and income certificates, officials record inflated income figures, effectively disqualifying eligible beneficiaries. Widows and persons unable to work due to illness are particularly affected.

Cumbersome processes

In cases where income certificates are issued incorrectly, there is no immediate mechanism for cancellation or correction. Applicants are required to submit separate requests, which reportedly take several months to process.

Those approaching officials or the Deputy Tahsildar for clarification claim they receive inadequate responses. Students seeking OBC, minority, Economically Weaker Section (EWS), residence or domicile certificates report delays, while families applying for lineage or family member verification certificates also face obstacles.

Zoo, Karanji Lake open tomorrow

Mysuru, Dec. 22- Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens (Mysuru Zoo) and Karanji Lake Nature Park will be kept open for visitors tomorrow (Dec. 23) on account of Christmas, which will be celebrated on Dec. 25, according to a press release from the Zoo Executive Director.

City's first Mother's Milk Bank inaugurated at Cheluvamba Hospital

Rotary District Governors B.R. Sridhar and P.K. Ramakrishna, MMC& RI Dean and Director Dr. K.R. Dakshayani and Medical Superintendent of Cheluvamba Hospital Dr. R. Sudha, seen during the inauguration of Mother's Milk Bank at Cheluvamba Hospital premises in city yesterday.

Mysuru, Dec. 22 (PM&BS)- Amrutha Varshini, a Mother's Milk Bank was inaugurated at Cheluvamba Hospital of Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI), in city yesterday.

It is the first of its kind initiative in the city, which is aimed at boosting the health of newborns, under the aegis of Rotary Club of Mysore Metro and Rotary Club of Bangalore South Parade, that have sponsored equipment for the Milk Bank.

Rotary District Governors B.R. Sridhar - RI District 3191 and P.K. Ramakrishna - RI District 3118, inaugurated the Milk Bank.

Addressing the gathering at Cauvery Auditorium in the Department of Paediatrics, MMC&RI Dean and Director Dr. K.R. Dakshayani said that the institute has several plans with a far-sighted vision and the Milk Bank was one among them, which has now become a reality.

"One hour after the birth of a baby is considered precious. If the baby is admitted to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), mother cannot feed the baby. During such a condition, especially when mother cannot produce the milk, the Milk Bank is essential to prevent the newborns from suffering from malnutrition. We are grateful to Rotary Clubs for the very initiative," said Dr. Dakshayani.

MMC&RI which was established by a statesman, Maharaja of Mysore Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar, as a 20-bed hospital, which has now touched 2,395 beds, making it popular as *Doddaspatre*.

Apart from providing health services, the institute is imparting medical education too, with 250 Under Graduate (UG) seats and 190 Post Graduate (PG) seats. BSc in Nursing and other courses are also offered here.

Rotary District 3181 PDG H.R. Keshav, Public Image Chair Dr. K. Shivaprasad, DGN Yashaswi Somashekar, Rotary Mysore Metro Chairman M.P. Gopalakrishna, Hon. Secretary Mohan Gurumurthy, Rotary Bangalore South Parade Chairman Sunil Kumar, Hon. Secretary Satish Chingal, Medical Superintendent of Cheluvamba Hospital Dr. R. Sudha, Head of Paediatrics Dr. N. Pradeep and Nodal Officer of Milk Bank Dr. Hamsa were present.

To start functioning from January 2026

Head of Paediatrics Department, MMC&RI, Mysuru, Dr. N. Pradeep said, the Mother's Milk Bank at Cheluvamba Hospital will start functioning from the first week of January 2026. No charges will be levied for providing the service.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Dr. Pradeep said that lactating women can donate milk, by pumping the milk through breast pump. Along with those women admitted in the hospital, outsiders too can donate milk. One can donate a minimum of 50 ML to 100 ML milk and more. The milk collected will be mixed on a particular day and will be later processed for pasteurisation and culture test. The needy newborns at the hospital will be given the milk. That apart, the request received from outside, shall also be considered.

Rotary Clubs have donated required equipment for the Milk Bank by spending Rs. 35 lakh. While the manpower and service will be taken care by Cheluvamba Hospital, said Rotary Mysore Metro President M.P. Gopalakrishna.

Civil works of IVF Centre at Cheluvamba near completion

MMC&RI Dean and Director Dr. K.R. Dakshayani said that the ongoing civil works on In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) Centre at Cheluvamba Hospital premises, will be completed soon.

"IVF Centre has become inevitable for several women, the works on which have been almost completed. The building is being constructed using our own internal resources and the expenditure towards installation of equipment will be borne by us," she added.

Skin Bank

The site for construction of Skin Bank is also identified, while the plans on procuring equipment is pending. The Skin Bank is essential for burn victims. While K.R. Hospital has hi-tech burns ward that can be extended up to 100-bed facility with the wards built to accommodate the same, said Dr. Dakshayani.

Pulse polio drive at Sigma Hospital

As part of Pulse Polio immunisation programme, polio drops were administered to infants at Sigma Hospital in city yesterday. Picture shows Rotary Club of Mysore South East President Y. Muralidhar, Secretary Suresh, Treasurer K.N. Muralidhar, Sigma Hospital Managing Director S. Gnanashankar and senior Paediatricians Dr. M.S. Kanya, Dr. Harish Gautam and the Health Department staff during the pulse polio drive at the Hospital.

Noted Kodagu hockey coach Puchimada Harish passes away

Harish

Ponnampet, Dec. 22 (BCT)- Senior hockey coach and former Ponnampet Gram Panchayat member Puchimada Harish (76) passed away at a private hospital in Mysuru yesterday following illness.

He is survived by his wife, a son, two daughters, a brother, grand-children and a host of relatives and close associates.

A resident of Ponnampet and the eldest son of noted philanthropist late Puchimada Bopaiah, Harish was actively involved in social service. While running a tutorial centre in Ponnampet, he extended educational support to several students.

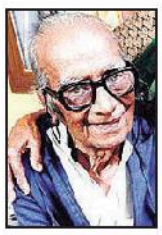
An accomplished hockey player, Harish represented several teams during his career and later emerged as a prominent coach at the Ponnampet Junior College Grounds, mentoring several athletes, including Olympian C.S. Poonacha and Karnataka State players Ricky Ganapathi and Utthaiah. He also served as a referee and trainer across Kodagu and played a key role in establishing the sports hostel at Ponnampet.

He was also instrumental in initiating the movement for the creation of Ponnampet taluk. He hosted several committee meetings at his residence under the leadership of Cheppudira Arun Machaiah, serving as the Committee Secretary.

Harish also contributed to the establishment of the Ponnampet Court. A close associate of former Minister M.C. Nanaiah, Harish was active in the JD(S).

Last rites were performed at Ponnampet this afternoon. As a mark of respect, shops remained closed between 1 pm and 2 pm.

Cameraman M.S. Rajappan no more



M.S. Rajappan

Mysuru, Dec. 22- M.S. Rajappan (92), a cameraman, who had shot nearly 400 feature films and about 350 advertising shorts and documentaries, passed away at his residence in J.P. Nagar here this morning.

He leaves behind his wife Sathyaprema, daughter M.R. Radika (Chitra), son-in-law M.C. Rajanikanthraj Urs, granddaughter Lakshmi and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill this afternoon.

Rajappan had shot a documentary of late writer R.K. Narayan for the *BBC* in 1989 and a brief interview of President V.V. Giri, which was shot at Rashtrapati Bhavan in 1970.

In 1955, Rajappan joined as an assistant cameraman to veteran special effects cameraman D.S. Kotnis. He had an opportunity to work under 40 well-known Indian, British and Hollywood cameramen and had the rare opportunity to work under Hollywood cameraman Gownther and special effects cameraman Mitt Rice for MGM film 'Maya,' a jungle thriller in English. *Star of Mysore* had published an article about Rajappan titled 'Life through lens' on Feb. 16, 2022.

Obituary

R. Chanchalalakshmi

Mysuru, Dec. 22- R. Chanchalalakshmi (63), wife of K. Lokesh Rao, a Congress leader and a resident of Sonar Street, D. Subbaiah Road Cross, passed away following a heart attack during her yatra in Tamil Nadu this morning.

She leaves behind her husband, son Abhishek, daughter Shilpa and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites will be held tomorrow (Dec. 23) at 11 am at the foot of Chamundi Hill.

R.C. Vatsala

R.C. Vatsala (84), retired teacher at Akkanabalga School on Thyagaraja Road and a resident of Ramakrishnanagar, passed away yesterday in city.

She leaves behind daughter M.P. Rajeshwari, retired Principal of JSS Women's College at Saraswathipuram, son-in-law T.S. Mahadevaswamy, grand-daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Veerashaiva Burial Grounds in Vidyaranyapuram this noon.

Savithramma

Savithramma (80), wife of Yaraganahalli Teachers Layout Founder-President late D.E. Ramalingegowda, passed away yesterday in city.

She leaves behind two sons including The Mysore Co-Operative Bank Director R. Somanna, daughters-in-law, grand-children & a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill this noon.

VVCE students win Smart India Hackathon-2025

Team Zanthos led by Yatharth Agarwal receiving winners' cheque and memento from All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Chairman T.G. Sitharam at G.L. Bajaj Institute of Technology and Management, Greater Noida recently.

Mysuru, Dec. 22-Two student teams of Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering (VVCE), Mysuru, have emerged winners in the Smart India Hackathon-2025 (SIH-2025) - Hardware Edition, held recently.

This national-level achievement highlights the creativity, technical skills and dedication of VVCE students and their faculty mentors.

Team BRAINI-X, led by S. Dhanush, worked on a problem statement given by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, focusing on healthcare challenges faced by patients with upper limb weakness or paralysis due to orthopaedic or neurological conditions.

The team developed an innovative orthopaedic rehabilitation system that helps patients perform controlled hand movements through guided hold-and-release actions. The system allows customisation of speed, repetitions, rehabilitation cycles and rest time based on patient needs. By supporting gradual muscle activation and natural hand movement, the solution helps patients improve strength, coordination and confidence during recovery.

The team won a cash prize of Rs. 75,000 at Galgotias University, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

Team ZANTHOS, led by Yatharth Agarwal, addressed rehabilitation challenges faced by long-term axillary crutch users. Their solution is a smart, foldable aluminium axillary crutch designed to improve safety, comfort and clinical monitoring.

The crutch includes ergonomic dampers to reduce nerve pressure, IoT sensors to monitor load, posture and grip strength, and safety features such as fall detection and an SOS alert. A mobile app enables doctors and caregivers to track patient progress in real time.

The team was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 1,50,000 at G.L. Bajaj Institute of Technology and Management, Greater Noida.

Dr. B. Sadashive Gowda, Principal, VVCE congratulated the teams and faculty mentors for this prestigious national achievement.

D.A.V.'s Chinnara Kalarava

Mysuru, Dec. 22- D.A.V. Public School's Pre-Primary Annual Day Celebration '*Chinnara Kalarava*' was celebrated at Kalamandira in city on Dec. 20. The programme was formally inaugurated by chief guest Shubha Sanjay Urs, Founder of Mysuru Book Clubs.

Students displayed a series of colourful and captivating performances to showcase India's rich culture and heritage.

School Chairman N. Sachidananda Murthy, Hon. Secretary R. Anand, School CEO M.A. Jayashree, Principal Kavyashree Basappa and Vice-Principal T.M. Kavya were present along with hundreds of parents who witnessed the programme.

Kruthi Sangama at AVK

Mysuru, Dec. 22- *Kruthi Sangama-2025,* an exhibition of Science and English Projects including working models and charts, was organised at Acharya Vidya Kula (AVK), Mysuru.

Dharma Prasad, CEO, Chief Scientist, PROSETTA Bioconformatics and Nirupa Madappa, a teacher and Student Counsellor, were the chief guests who inaugurated the exhibition and visited all the sections. Art and Craft work done by the students of classes III to V during the academic year were also displayed.

In addition to this, a stage show on the theme '*Timeless Characters from Classics to Curiosity*' was put up. Parents and guests who visited *Kruthi Sangama* appreciated the creative presentations and applauded the efforts of teachers and students, according to Nalini Nanaiah, Principal, AVK.

Kautilya Vidyalaya celebrates *Samskrithika Parva 2025-26*

Mysuru, Dec. 22- Kautilya Vidyalaya, Mysuru, celebrated its Annual Day, ***Samskrithika Parva 2025-26*** at KSOU Convocation Hall in city recently.

The celebration was attended by Prof. Dr. Ram Kumar Kakani, Vice-Chancellor, RV University, Dr. M. Jagannath Shenoy, Industrialist and Philanthropist, Nitesh Patil, Regional Commissioner, Mysuru, Revathi Kamath, Entrepreneur and Philanthropist, Ashok Kheny, former MLC, as chief guests while Dr. M.S. Prakash, MD, RV Dental College was the guest of honour.

School Chairman T. Babu presided. Neetu Babu, Director-Principal Dr. S. Jayashree Muralidhar and Vice-Principal Dr. M.K. Ramya Urs were present at the ceremony along with teaching and non-teaching staff, parents, students and alumni.

Dr. Jayashree highlighted the school's academic and co-curricular achievements of the year.

Dr. Jagannath Shenoy stated that Mysuru city is always known for cultural and heritage city, and the students of Kautilya proved it today. Nitesh Patil encouraged students to pursue excellence with discipline, honest, obedience and creativity.

Meritorious students were felicitated with awards for academics, sports, leadership and co-curricular achievements.

The event showcased the talents of students through a vibrant cultural presentation — Vedaghosha, Bhagavadgita recital, Western to Indian dances, folk to mythological dances, dances on women empowerment, Ekalavya-Dronacharya dance-drama, Shivaji dance, a tribute to Salumarada Thimmakka, English drama with a message "Honesty is the best policy", Kannada drama on "Tenali Ramakrishna."

Tiny-tots danced for various cartoon characters like Disney, Barbie, Minions, Rio, Jungle Book. The students also displayed Yoga and Martial Arts skills. Dr. Ramya Urs proposed the vote of thanks.

DPIRS celebrates Annual Day

Mysuru, Dec. 22- De Paul International Residential School (DPIRS) celebrated its 23rd Annual Day, *ILLUSIA: The Magic Within* on Dec. 20.

The campus transformed into a realm of creativity, colour and confidence as students showcased their artistic brilliance, reaffirming DPIRS' commitment to holistic education.

Dr. Akhil Scaria, distinguished alumnus of DPIRS; Rev. Fr. Dr. Anil Thomas CM, Provincial of the Southern Indian Province of the Congregation of the Mission, Mysore; Rev. Fr. Anish Xavier CM, Principal of De Paul International Residential School; Rev. Fr. Santoy Kurian CM, Campus Superior and Financial Administrator; Rev. Dr. Fr. Baiju Antony CM, Principal of De Paul College; and Rev. Fr.Jayaraj CM, Dean and Director of Boarding witnessed the celebrations filled with awe-inspiring performances that reflected imagination, discipline and teamwork.

On the occasion, the School Magazine was unveiled.

Niranthara Theatre Fest concludes

Artistes of Nirdigantha theatre troupe from Srirangapatna, Mandya, staging the play 'Kodalla Andre Kodalla' on the concluding day of Niranthara Theatre Festival at Mini Theatre in Kalamandira premises last evening. Picture left shows an artiste amidst a section of the audience.

Mysuru, Dec. 22- The five-day Niranthara Theatre Festival, organised by Niranthara Foundation at Mini Theatre in Kalamandira premises here, concluded last evening.

With packed audiences attending every day, the Festival once again highlighted the power of theatre in nurturing refined sensibilities, social harmony and human values.

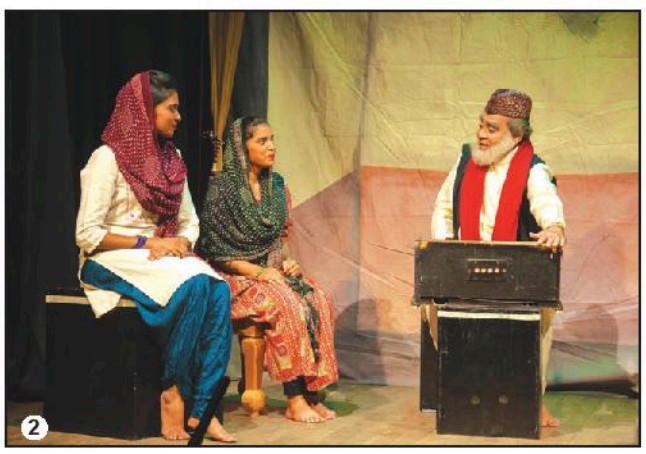
Speaking as the chief guest at the valedictory programme, thinker and writer Devanuru Basavaraju said that society must understand the contemporary relevance of theatre. Describing theatre as a life-giving forest that fosters good taste, harmony and human values, he observed that theatre should play a vital role in enriching life and promoting love and harmony within society.

Referring to the present times as deeply challenging, Devanuru Basavaraju said that the conditions in which we live and the events unfolding around us are a cause for serious concern.

In such circumstances, he stressed the urgent need to rebuild love and trust, adding that theatre offers one of the most effective paths to achieve this.

Senior theatre director Chidambararao Jambe, Niranthara Foundation President M.M. Suguna, Prof. K.C. Basavaraju, Hoskote Basavaraju of the Raitha Sangha, Prof. Kalachannegowda, Meena Masuru, Prof. C. Sarvamangala, Srinivas Palalli, Prasad Kundoor, Hariprasad, Dr. Narendra Kumar, Devanand Varaprasad and others were present on the occasion.

The play 'Kodalla Andre Kodalla,' based on 'Can't Pay? Won't Pay!' by the internationally acclaimed playwright Dario Fo, was staged by Nirdigantha theatre troupe, Srirangapatna, Mandya district.



PIC. 1: ***Artistes of Niranthara theatre troupe staging the play 'Goruru' on day-4 of Niranthara Theatre Festival on Dec. 20;*** PIC. 2: ***Artistes of Rangayana, Davangere, staging the play 'Prati Gandharva' on day-3 of the Fest on Dec. 19;*** PIC. 3: ***Flautist Ravi Shankar Mishra and sitarist Junain Khan presenting a 'Naada Sanje - Jugalbandi' on day-2 on Dec. 18. They were accompanied by Rishi Prasad (Austin, Texas, USA) on tabla.***

Students stage flash mob, take part in Heritage Hunt

Mysuru, Dec. 22 (BCT)- A heritage-themed flash mob performed by schoolchildren was held for the first time in Mysuru at the forecourt of the Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple, Mysore Palace North Gate, yesterday, drawing public attention to the city's cultural legacy.

Over 170 students from Purna Chetana School presented a 30-minute performance featuring 14 songs that drew inspiration from history, folk traditions and patriotism. The synchronised presentation marked the opening of Mysuru Heritage Treasure Hunt.

The Treasure Hunt was inaugurated by Orthopaedic Surgeon and Avantbkg Hospital Founder Dr. T.N. Balakrishna Gowda, who said, conservation of Mysuru's heritage was a collective responsibility. He announced free medical check-ups worth Rs. 5,000 for the winners at his hospital.

Chief guest and Pulmonologist Dr. R. Lakshmi Narasimhan said that the event helped familiarise children and parents with Mysuru's history and heritage in an engaging manner.

Each participating team was given a treasure kit containing 10 clues and asked to identify and reach key heritage landmarks, including Cheluvamba Mansion, City Railway Station, Oriental Research Institute (ORI), Crawford Hall, Old Deputy Commissioner's Office and Town Hall.

Hrudya, a Class 7 student of Purna Chetana School and her father Bhuvaneshwar won the first prize by completing the hunt in 1 hour and 18 minutes. Their use of an auto-rickshaw during the hunt drew attention.

Arohi Singh, also a Class 7 student of the same school, along with her father Santosh Kumar Singh, secured the second prize.

Ritvi, a Class 5 student of Vasavi Cultural School, K.R. Nagar and Tejesh Gowda won the third prize.

Cash prizes of Rs. 10,000, Rs. 7,500 and Rs, 5,000, along with trophies, were awarded to the winners. Purna Chetana CEO Darshan Raj, CAO Maadhurya Ramaswamy, Secretary Dr. Rajini, Trustee M.R. Praveen and others were present.

WORD OF THE DAY

Decorous

Pronunciation: DECK-er-us (Adjective)
Meaning: Decorous is a formal adjective used to describe an attitude or behaviour characterised by propriety and good taste.
Origin: One of the earliest recorded uses of decorous appears in a book titled The Rules of Civility (1671): "It is not decorous to look in the glass, to comb, brush, or do anything of that nature to ourselves, whilst the said person be in the Room." This rule of thumb may be a bit outdated; like many behaviors once deemed unbecoming, public primping is unlikely to offend in modern times. Though mores shift, decorous lives on to describe timeless courtesies like polite speech, proper attire, and (ahem) covering one's cough.
Example: "... Elizabeth reveals, later, that she felt she never belonged to the decorous world of parties and corsets and curls and feathers on the head ..." —Ryan Lattanzio, Indie Wire, 13 Oct. 2025.

THE ODD WORD

Obstriction

Obligation.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Bats in the belfry

Meaning: You use the expression "Bats in the belfry" to indicate that someone is acting eccentric or crazy.
Origin: Although the phrase "Bats in the belfry" has a very old-fashioned ring to it, the term originated in late 19th or early 20th century in America. A very early example comes from an October 1900 edition of an Ohio newspaper called The Newark Daily Advocate: "To his hundreds of friends and acquaintances in Newark, these puerile and senseless attacks on Hon. John W. Casssingham are akin to the vaporings of the fellow with a large flock of bats in his belfry."
Example: 'Wanda has bats in the belfry; she seems to think that the mailman is trying to steal her cat!'

QUOTE BOX

Forgiveness is the final form of love. **—Reinhold Niebuhr**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: A friend in need is friend indeed.

SUDOKU

			7		3			
5	3			9			1	7
		6				3		
7			5		8			9
		4				7		
9			2		7			6
		7				6		
3	2			5			7	4
			3		1			

Answer to previous puzzle

5	7	3	4	2	8	6	9	1
9	1	4	6	3	5	7	8	2
6	2	8	9	1	7	5	4	3
4	5	9	1	7	6	3	2	8
8	6	1	2	5	3	9	7	4
2	3	7	8	4	9	1	6	5
1	8	5	7	9	4	2	3	6
3	9	6	5	8	2	4	1	7
7	4	2	3	6	1	8	5	9

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

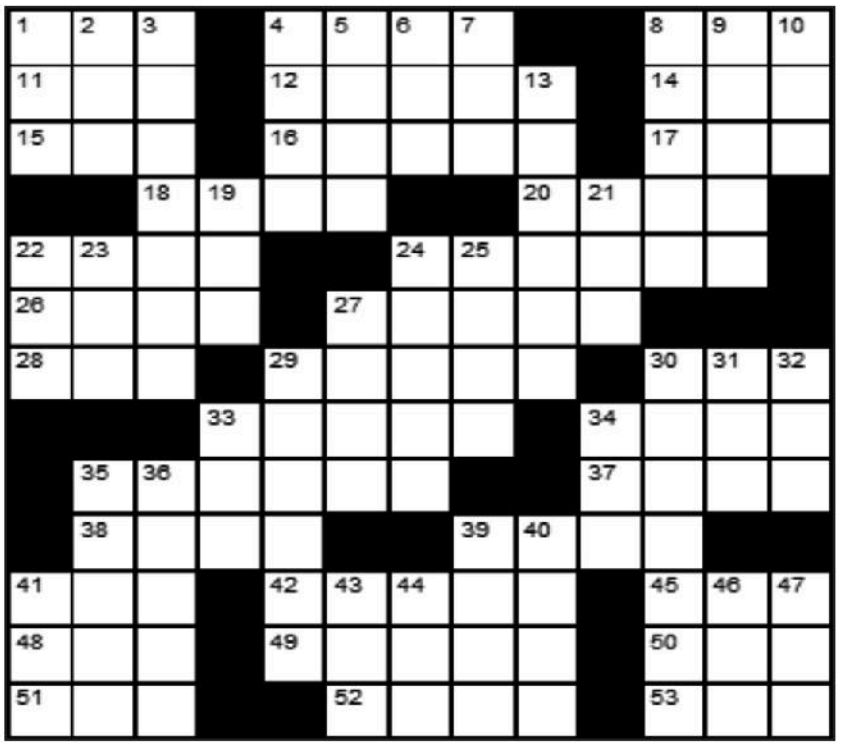
1 Latter Day Saints, abbr.
4 Cry in despair
8 Mining hole
11 ___ Maria : famous hymn?
12 Bay
14 Large, abbr.
15 Pass away
16 Demise
17 Ultimo, in short
18 Was aware of?
20 Palindromic boy
22 Tell __ ___ : fib? (1,3)
24 Largest of the grasses
26 Rod
27 Beg
28 Breakfast staple
29 Looks closely at
30 ___ de mer (seasickness)
33 Left-hand page
34 Swiss river - change of "area"?
35 Grunts
37 Part of a flower
38 Flightless bird
39 Egyptian symbol of life
41 French for 'Duke'
42 Musical drama
45 Submachine gun
48 Spanish cheer
49 Wilt
50 Increase the number of rotations per minute?
51 Camera type
52 Hankers after
53 One, no matter which

DOWN

1 Youth
2 Digital Video Input acronym
3 Looking for
4 Large or expanded
5 Once more
6 ___ Arun : Bollywood singer?
7 Allow or permit
8 Dwarf planet
9 Innuit dwelling
10 9th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
13 Dylan ___ : famous poet?
19 Maiden-name
21 To Be Determined
22 Highest in cards
23 Fall behind
24 Invoke God's favour on
25 Flight prefix
27 Impudent
29 Length of time
30 U.P. city
31 Part of verb to be
32 NASA vehicle
33 Promise
34 Inquire of
35 Skeletal head
36 More agreeable
39 Town in MP
40 Siestas
41 Parties
43 Peer
44 Equal opportunity employer abbr
46 Japanese Buddhist philosophy
47 Creeper

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

R	T	O			A	R	F		D	H	O	W
N	O	V			M	U	R		I	O	W	A
A	D	E	L	A	I	D	E		S	P	E	Y
		R	E	S	T	R	I	C	T	E	D	
B	U	D	D	H		A	G	I	O			
U	F	O						H	A	R	D	S
N	O	N	A	G	E			T	O	T	A	L	S
	S	E	L	L	S					M	O	O
			T	U	T	U		S	P	A	T	S
	T	R	E	M	E	N	D	O	U	S		
T	B	A	R		E	T	R	U	S	C	A	N
I	S	L	E		M	I	A			U	T	E
S	P	E	D		S	L	Y			S	H	Y



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

LVBUHBRDIWV SJ THQB BVDYSET.

UHBKVE VZVBTEOSIK VYJV.

TODAY'S CLUE: K EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: You are never given a wish without also being given the power to make it come true. You may have to work for it, however.

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  The Devil (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  The Devil (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  The Devil (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Avatar: Fire & Ash (K) - 1 Show; *Avatar: Fire & Ash (E)* - 2 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Akhanda 2: Thaandavam (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Akhanda 2: Thaandavam (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Kantara: A Legend Chapter - 1 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Padayappa (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Dhurandhar (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	(S-1)	10 am, 2.05 pm
		6.05 pm, 10 pm
The Devil (K)	(S-2)	9.55 am, 1.15 pm
	(S-3)	7.10 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	(S-2)	4.30 pm, 8.35 pm
	(S-4)	10 am, 2.05 pm
		6.05 pm, 10.10 pm
Padayappa (Ta)	(S-3)	9.30 am
Kombuseevi (Ta)	(S-3)	1.05 pm
Vishwaroopini Shree Vasavi (K)	(S-3)	4 pm
Bha Bha Ba (Ma)	(S-3)	10.30 pm

MOVIES AT MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

The Devil (K)	:	10.25 am, 1.30 pm
		6.30 pm, 9.40 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (K-3D)	:	10.50 am, 2.15 pm
		4.40 pm, 8.20 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	1 pm, 6 pm
		9.45 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	2.30 pm, 4.45 pm
		9.15 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	6.30 am, 10 am
		10.30 am, 2 pm
		2.30 pm, 6 pm
		6.30 pm, 10 pm, 10.30 pm
The Devil (K)	:	8.40 am, 12.05 pm
		3.30 pm, 3.40 pm
		6.55 pm, 10.20 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	9 am, 9.30 am
		1.15 pm, 1.45 pm
		5.30 pm, 6 pm
		9.45 pm, 10.15 pm
Bha Bha Ba (Ma)	:	9.15 am, 7.05 pm
Akhanda 2: Thaandavam (Te)	:	12.20 pm
Kis Kisko Pyaar Karoon 2 (H)	:	10.10 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	6.30 am, 9.40 am
		10.30 am, 2.30 pm
		6.30 pm, 10.30 pm
The Devil (K)	:	8.40 am, 12.05 pm
		2.45 pm, 3.30 pm
		6.55 pm, 10.20 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	10.30 am, 1.40 pm, 5.55 pm
		9.30 pm, 10.10 pm
Akhanda 2: Thaandavam (Te)	:	6.10 pm

EVENTS TODAY (DEC. 22)

- **Sabarimala Sree Ayyappa Pooja Samithi:** 65th Annual Puja Celebrations, Deeparadhana, Attazha Pooja, Sree Bhootha Bali, Velakku, Prasada Viniyoga, **5.30 pm to 9 pm;** Special Thayambaka by Vadyakalarathna Sri Payyavoor Gopalan Kutty Marar & Party, Sree Ayyappa Swamy and Sree Guruvayurappan Temple, foot of Chamundi Hill, **6.30 pm to 8.30 pm.**
- **Sri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple of Melukote Yadugiri Yatiraj Mutt, Mysuru Branch:** Dhanurmasa Puja, Temple premises, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Sri Ramakrishna Vidyakula High School, Hootagalli:** 17th Annual Day Anavaran, Senior Rangayana Artiste Mime Ramesh chief guest, Department of Economics and Statistics Assistant Directors Mahesh (Ramanagar) and Chitra (Mandya) guests of honour, Kalamandira, Hunsur Road, **4 pm.**
- **Mysore Palace Board:** Winter Festival - Flower Show, Cultural Programmes - Dance-drama by students of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (BVB), Mysuru, **5 pm to 5.30 pm;** Light music by Rithvik C. Raj and team, **5.45 pm to 6.30 pm;** 'Kavi-Kavya Sangeetha Sangama' by Mano Music Lines, **6.45 pm to 8 pm;** 'Raaga Rhythm Fusion' by **Vid. H.L. Shivashankar Swamy** and troupe, Palace premises, **8.15 pm to 9.30 pm.**

- **Karnataka Exhibition Authority (KEA):** Cultural programmes, staging of short play on 'Women atrocities,' **5.30 pm to 6.30 pm;** Staging of short play on '5 Guarantee Schemes of the Government,' P. Kalingarao Gaana Mantapa, Dasara Exhibition Grounds, **6.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Parampare:** Bhajans by Sri Vishwesha Krishna Bhajana Mandali, Krishnadhama; Dr. Veena Bannanje delivers lecture on 'Srimad Bhagavatha,' Mysore Vasudevacharya Bhavana, JLB Road, **6 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (DEC. 23)

- **Sabarimala Sree Ayyappa Pooja Samithi:** 65th Annual Puja Celebrations, Maha Ganapathi Homa, Usha Puja, Seeveli Uthsava with Vadyam, Kalasabhishekam, Kalabhabhishekam (Gandhada Abhishekam), Abhisheka to God Ganapathi, Ucha Puja, **5.30 am to 12 noon;** Deeparadhana, Attazha Puja, Sree Bhootha Bali, Velakku, Prasada Viniyoga, Sree Ayyappa Swamy and Sree Guruvayurappan Temple, foot of Chamundi Hill, **5.30 pm to 9 pm.**
- **Sri Lakshminarasimhaswamy Temple of Melukote Yadugiri Yatiraj Mutt, Mysuru Branch:** Dhanurmasa Puja, Temple premises, Jayalakshmipuram, **5.30 am to 10 am and 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Bhavani Associates, Mysuru:** Seminar on 'TDS on Salaries and Others' by Ravinder, Income Tax Officer (TDS), Ward-1, Mysuru and CA K. Keshava Dongre, Chartered Accountant, Mysuru, Rotary Children's Library Hall, JLB Road, **10 am.** [Mob: 98451-20429]
- **Vishwaprajna Nursery, Primary and High School, Dattagalli, Kanakadasanagar:** Prize distribution, VPEI Joint Secretary S.Y. Hombal chief guest, VPEI Trustee Paramesh Gowda presides, PVK Acharya Auditorium, Kanakadasanagar, **10 am.**
- **Department of Studies in Anthropology, University of Mysore (UoM):** Valedictory of 2-day National Seminar on 'Essence of Field Studies in Anthropological Research,' Seminar Hall, DoS in Anthropology, **5.15 pm.**
- **Shri Bruhaspatyacharya Vidya Samsthe (SBVS):** 26th Annual Day celebrations, SBVS Trustee Dr. U.G. Shenoy chief guest, SBVS Hon. Secretary M. Manoj Shenoy will be present, SBVS premises, Srirampura 2nd Stage, **3.30 pm.**
- **Mysore Palace Board:** Winter Festival - Flower Show, Light music by Akashvani artiste Bhagyashree Gowda and troupe, **5 pm to 5.30 pm;** 'Sangeetha Rasa Sanje' by Madhura Gaana Kalavrunda, led by Ramesh Kumar, **5.45 pm to 6.30 pm;** Bharatanatyam by Dr. Sparsha Shenoy and troupe, Kalasparsha Performing Arts Trust, Mysuru, **6.45 pm to 7.45 pm;** 'Sangeetha Yaana' by singers from Zee Kannada reality show, Palace premises, **8 pm to 9.30 pm.**
- **JSS Public School, Siddarthanagar:** 35th Annual Day, JSS Mahavidyapeetha Secretary-1 S.P. Manjunath presides, SP N. Vishnuvardhana chief guest, University of Mysore retd. Professor Dr. K. Anantharamu guest of honour, School premises, **5.30 pm.**
- **Parampare:** Bhajans by Sharadadevi Mahila Samaja, Ramakrishnanagar I-Block; Dr. Veena Bannanje delivers lecture on 'Srimad Bhagavatha,' Mysore Vasudevacharya Bhavana, JLB Road, **6 pm.** [Mob: 99860-37311]

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	6.30 am, 10.30 am
		2.30 pm, 6.30 pm
		10.30 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-2D)	:	9.20 am
Avatar: Fire & Ash (K-2D)	:	1.20 pm
The Devil (K)	:	8.45 am, 12.05 pm
		3.30 pm, 6.55 pm
		10.20 pm
Dhurandhar (H)	:	9.40 am, 1.50 pm, 5.20 pm
		6 pm, 10.10 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-3D)	:	6.30 am, 10.30 am, 2.30 pm
		6.30 pm, 10.30 pm
Avatar: Fire & Ash (E-2D)	:	9 am
Dhurandhar (H)	:	9.40 am, 10.40 am
		1.50 pm, 6 pm
		9.40 pm, 10.10 pm
The Devil (K)	:	12.55 pm, 2.50 pm
		6.15 pm, 10.20 pm
Kombuseevi (Ta)	:	4.20 pm
Bha Bha Ba (Ma)	:	7.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
(An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

PUBLIC NOTICE 22nd December 2025

Subject: Extension of last date for submission of online application form for DRQ2026.

In continuation to the advertisement No: CBSE/Rectt.Cell/14(88)/2025 dated 02.12.2025, it is hereby notified that the last date for submission of the online application form for Direct Recruitment Quota Examination 2026 (DRQ2026) has been extended as per the schedule given below:

Events	Earlier Date	Extended Date
Online submission of application form	22nd December 2025 Up to 11:59 P.M.)	27th December 2025 (Up to 11:59 P.M.)
Last date for submission of examination fee (through credit-card/ debit card/ net banking/UPI)	22nd December 2025 (on or before 11:59 P.M.)	27th December 2025 (Up to 11:59 P.M.)

In case of any difficulty in applying for DRQ2026, the candidate may contact on 011-24050353 / 011-24050354 or email at drq2026@cbseshiksha.in

Director
cbc21107/12/0011/2526 Professional Exam Unit, CBSE

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Interviews to be conducted in Bangalore on 29 & 30 December 2025.

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